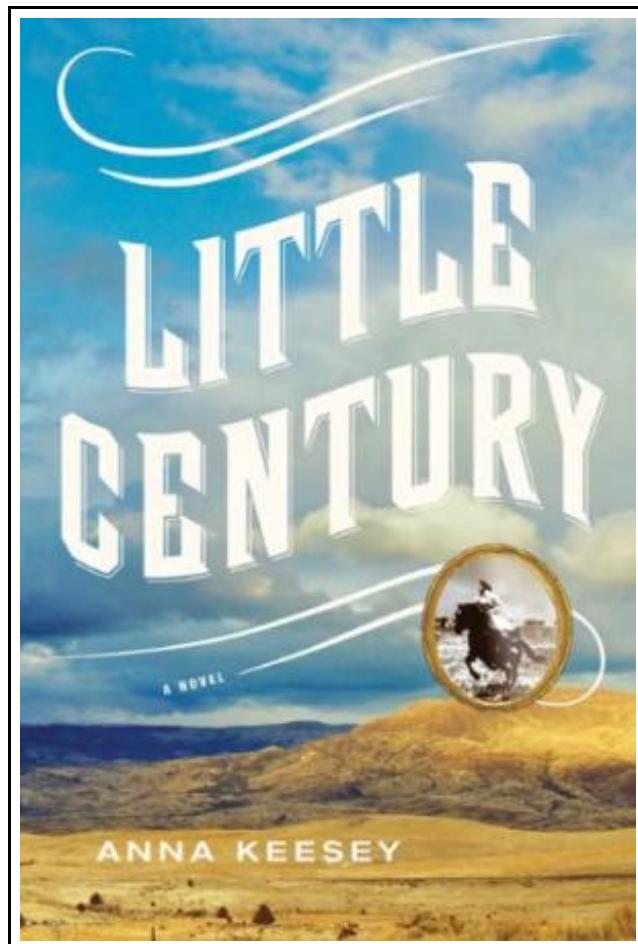


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Reviews

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Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: " Little Century . . . is rendered vividly through fluid and restrained prose, solid plotting and a keen eye for detail . . . Keesey , a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, treads [her] territory competently, imbuing her characters with palpable motives, rich contradictions and fully realized pasts . She also stays atop the rising action of the story, upping the stakes for her characters and the town of Century as she herds us efficiently toward the conclusion. At the same time, she knows not to hurry readers along without letting them soak up the atmosphere. The real star of the novel is Oregon's high desert, a vast, quiet plain Keesey captures in many of its dynamic moods, in language ranging from the plainspoken to the elegant . . . [Keesey's] language serves the story admirably , rarely crossing the line into the self-conscious, the sentimental or the flashy. In short, Keesey is a sentence writer in control of her craft. She's a storyteller who stays out of her own way ." Jonathan Evison, The New York Times Book Review " Ambitious . . . Accomplished . . . [Keesey's] words are clear as lake water . . . [The] plot works easily and well, but the real joys of the book are the set pieces showing town life and Esther's almost unnoticed passage into womanhood. There's a church dance, effortlessly drawn , and a couple of sermons, boring and portentous, and scenes of Esther learning to ride and plant and plow, and a perfect little scene of Esther and a friend helping a little girl jump rope . . . 'Tender' is a word Keesey uses again..."

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